

We are delighted to announce the first EURONET-SOMA summer school: “**Researching Persistent Somatic Symptoms: Multidisciplinary Challenges**”!

Patients with **Persistent Somatic Symptoms (PSS)** are functionally impaired, have lower quality of life so pose a substantial challenge to the population, healthcare and health policy of Europe. PSS are a great burden in healthcare and associated with enormous societal costs, health care costs and costs of lost productivity. Furthermore, PSS are often accompanied by psychological, psychiatric, and social problems or stressful life events. Psychosomatic medicine, clinical psychology and medical specialties all have their own (different) concepts of PSS. This has resulted in multiple diagnoses for PSS that are used in clinical care such as somatic symptom disorder (DSM-5), bodily distress disorder (ICD-11), functional somatic syndromes (secondary care) or medically unexplained symptoms (primary care). Furthermore, etiological concepts are still unresolved and differ between medical specialties. Perceptions and experiences of PSS are still not well understood and involve peripheral input, central processing, neurobiological concepts and psychosocial factors.

The **goals of the summer school** are to stimulate young researchers active in the field of PSS research, to give them the opportunity to gain a broader view on the different PSS perspectives, to inspire them for tackling the challenges in PSS research and implementation, and to encourage contact between these young researchers and research leaders. We now want to encourage international PhD students and postdocs engaged in the field to apply for this chance of interdisciplinary and international exchange.

Key facts:

Information	Selected PhD-students and post-docs from diverse backgrounds
Period	Saturday 15 th June - Tuesday 18 th June 2019
Location	Allersmaborg, Ezinge (the Netherlands, near the city of Groningen)
Fee	€400
Course language	English
Number of participants	24
Certificate	Certificate of Attendance
Deadline of application	1 st April 2019
Organizing committee	Prof. Dr. Judith Rosmalen (Groningen, The Netherlands), chair Dr. Tim olde Hartman (Nijmegen, The Netherlands) Prof. Dr. Bernd Löwe (Hamburg, Germany)

Application procedure

Applications should be sent to summerschoolPPS@rug.nl, including a motivational letter, a CV, and a potential publication list (please combine these documents to a single pdf-file). The fee for participation is 400€ and comprises the scientific program, the certificate of attendance, accommodation and meals.

For more information about the programme, application information and general information please check our [website](#).

We are happy to answer questions: summerschoolPPS@rug.nl!

We would really appreciate it if you could spread the news on the EURONET-SOMA summer school to young researchers in the field (e.g. via newsletter, twitter, LinkedIn) Thank you very much for your support!

Kind regards,

Angélica Acevedo

on behalf of the organizing committee:

Prof. Dr. Judith Rosmalen (Groningen, The Netherlands), chair

Dr. Tim olde Hartman (Nijmegen, The Netherlands)

Prof. Dr. Bernd Löwe (Hamburg, Germany)

Student committee:

Ilona Plug (Nijmegen, The Netherlands)

Kerstin Maehder (Hamburg, Germany)